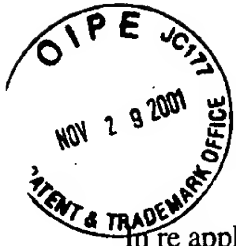


#4



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

PCT/EP99/06960

Baltes GASS

Attorney Docket Q63642

Appln. No.: 09/812,568

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: 2653

Examiner: not yet assigned

Filed: March 21, 2001

For: PROCESSING DEVICE AND PROCESSING TOOL FOR PROCESSING A
WORKPIECE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 3, amend the first three paragraphs as follows:

--As already mentioned, however, the body is not stationary in the process station, it instead being moved at a certain speed. This adds to the problem as explained above. For example, the operator may have already processed a few assembly sites on the next body, so that although the predefined number of bolting operations has been implemented, there is the problem of complete processing getting out of step and thus there is no longer the assurance that all bolts really have been tightened and/or with the corresponding torque/torsion angle (since there may be a change too, in the torque/torsion angle for each process operation and workpiece).

Al